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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans will present its annual "Dante Award" on May 21, 2009 to Greg Caputo, News Director for WGN-TV in Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, Greg Caputo joined WGN-TV as News Director in December 2002; he leads the news operation of consistently top-ranked local newscasts: WGN Morning News, WGN Midday News, WGN Evening News, and WGN News at Nine; during his time as News Director, the WGN Morning News, WGN Midday News, and WGN Evening News broadcasts have all expanded; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Caputo joined WGN-TV from Tribune station WLVI-TV in Boston, Massachusetts, where he served as news director for seven years; during his time at WLVI News, the news program remained a consistent market leader at 10pm, earning multiple local Emmys, as well as Associated Press and RTNDA Awards; and

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WHEREAS, Prior to WLVI, Mr. Caputo spent three years as corporate director of news for Malrite Communications group in Ohio; while there, he launched a news operation at their Fox affiliate WXIX, Cincinnati, Ohio, and assumed news leadership at the new two station cluster of CBS affiliate WOIO and independent station WUAB in Cleveland, Ohio; and

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1 WHEREAS, As Vice President and News Director at WFLD in
2 Chicago in 1985 and from 1987 to 1993, Mr. Caputo developed and
3 launched news broadcasts on the station; he held the same
4 position at WNYW, New York and WTTG, Washington, D.C. from 1986
5 to 1987; and

6 WHEREAS, Starting in 1972 and into 1985, Mr. Caputo held a
7 variety of positions at WBBM-TV, a CBS affiliate, leading to
8 the news director position in 1983; he also worked for Group W
9 Television KDKA-TV as their assignment manager in the
10 mid-1970s; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Caputo started in the industry as a reporter,
12 writer, producer, photographer, and editor at WNDU-TV and Radio
13 in South Bend, Indiana in 1968; he graduated from the
14 University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Arts degree in
15 Communication Arts and received his MS-J from Northwestern
16 University's prestigious Medill School of Journalism; and

17 WHEREAS, He has been President of the Board of Governors of
18 the Boston-New England Chapter of NATAS, a Governor of the
19 Chicago Chapter of NATAS, and a member of the RTNDA; he has
20 also been a guest lecturer at many prestigious universities
21 including Northwestern University, Columbia University in New
22 York, Boston University, Emerson College in Boston, and others;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, The Dante Award is given by the Joint Civic
3 Committee of Italian Americans annually; the Joint Civic
4 Committee on Italian Americans is an independent non-profit
5 association dedicated to preserving Italian-American heritage
6 and providing a unified voice for metropolitan Chicago's
7 Italian-American community; the Dante Award is given to a
8 member of the local news media who has answered Dante
9 Alighieri's call to be no timid friend to truth; therefore, be
10 it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
13 congratulate Greg Caputo on being named the recipient of the
14 2009 Dante Award, presented by the Joint Civic Committee of
15 Italian Americans, for his dedication, service, and
16 inspiration in the field of news; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to Greg Caputo with our respect and esteem.